

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SPC-03 L-03 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11

NEA-10 RSC-01 OIC-04 DLOS-06 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-11 FMC-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 CG-00 COA-02 AEC-11 INT-08

CEQ-02 EPA-04 DOTE-00 TRSE-00 SS-20 NSC-10 H-03 PA-04

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MARAD - MR. STEINMAN (INFO)

EPA - MR. MCMANUS (INFO)

CEQ - MR. COOK

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

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TAGS: IMCO, ETRN

SUBJECT; IMCO: MEPC AGENDA ITEM 3

1. FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS CONTAIN TEXT OF "NOTE BY THE UNITED STATES" WHICH EMBASSY SHOULD DELIVER PROMPLY TO IMCO SECRETARIAT AND REQUEST THAT IT BE CIRCULATED AT OPENING OF MEPC MEETING MARCH 5 UNDER AGENDA ITEM 3:

2. BEGIN TEXT. THE MEPC HAS BEEN CONSTITUTED AS THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OF IMCO RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATING AND ADMINISTERING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION CONCERNING THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF MARINE POLLUTION. THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE COMMITTEE ARE SET OUT IN ASSEMBLY

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RESOLUTION A.297 (VIII). THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION WISHES TO PLACE THE FOLLOWING PERSPECTIVES BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE IN THE INTEREST OF FACILITATING CONSIDERATION OF THE MEPC TERMS OF REFERENCE, METHODS OF WORK AND COORDINATION OF WORK.

3. THE AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MEPC, AND THE ACTIVITIES TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE COMMITTEE, APPEAR TO FALL INTO THE FOLLOWING SEVEN CATEGORIES:

(A) TECHNICAL MATTERS RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF STANDARDS; E.G., DISCHARGE STANDARDS FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF MARINE POLLUTION FROM SHIPS.

(B) TECHNICAL MATTERS INVOLVING THE DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF MARINE POLLUTION; E.G., OIL POLLUTION MANUAL.

(C) TECHNICAL MATTERS RELATING TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF IMCO MARINE POLLUTION CONVENTIONS; E.G., MAINTAINING LISTS, REVIEW OF REPORTS, MEASURES TO FACILITATE ENFORCEMENT.

(D) SCIENTIFIC MATTERS; E.G., HAZARD EVALUATION OF CHEMICALS, WATER QUALITY CRITERIA, DEVELOPMENT OF REMEDIAL MEASURES.

(E) TECHNICAL MATTERS RELATING TO MARINE POLLUTION FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF SHIP DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION.

(F) IMPLEMENTATION MATTERS RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT, AND LEGAL ASPECTS, OF THE IMCO MARINE POLLUTION CONVENTIONS

(G) MATTERS RELATING TO TECHNICAL COOPERATION WITH RESPECT TO MARINE POLLUTION.

4. AS REGARDS THE COMMITTEE'S METHODS OF WORK, THERE ARE THREE APPROACHES AVAILABLE TO THE COMMITTEE FOR ANY TASK:

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(A) THE MEPC MAY PERFORM THE WORK ITSELF OR ESTABLISH PANELS, WORKING GROUPS OR ITS OWN SUBCOMMITTEES TO DO SO. IN ANALYZING THE EXPECTED WORK PROGRAM OF THE MEPC, IT DOES APPEAR THAT AT LEAST ONE SUBCOMMITTEE OR PANEL WILL BE REQUIRED TO DEAL WITH THE SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE; I.E., THE FUNCTIONS ENVISIONED IN PARAGRAPHS A, B, C, AND D ABOVE, AND UPON WHICH OTHER WORK SUCH AS THAT DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH E CAN BE BASED. OTHER WORKING GROUPS, PANELS OR SUBCOMMITTEES MAY BE

REQUIRED AS THE WORK PROGRAM DEVELOPS.

(B) THE COMMITTEE MAY, ESPECIALLY INITIALLY, SEEK ASSISTANCE OF OTHER EXISTING IMCO BODIES; E.G., THE LEGAL COMMITTEE, THE MSC AND ITS SUBCOMMITTEES, AND THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE. THERE ALREADY EXISTS A CADRE OF EXPERTS WITHIN THE IMCO FAMILY UPON WHICH THE COMMITTEE CAN DRAW FOR ASSISTANCE IN ITS ACTIVITIES.

(C) THE COMMITTEE MAY REQUEST ASSISTANCE FROM NON-IMCO BODIES; E.G., GESAMP. SOME OF THE WORK ENVISIONED WITH THE SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE IS OF A LONG RANGE NATURE, FOR EXAMPLE THAT DESCRIBED IN RESOLUTIONS 6, 10, AND 15. IN THESE INSTANCES THE COMMITTEE MAY WISH TO SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM GESAMP OR OTHER NON-IMCO BODIES WITH SPECIALIZED EXPERTISE.

5. IT APPEARS TO THE UNITED STATES THAT THE MOST PRACTICAL AND EFFICIENT METHOD OF WORK WOULD BE FOR THE COMMITTEE TO UTILIZE AS DESIRABLE ALL THREE OF THE APPROACHES. IN THOSE INSTANCES WHEN ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED FROM OTHER BODIES, MEPC SHOULD INDICATE THE PRIORITY AND/OR DATE THE FINISHED WORK IS DESIRED, AND GIVE GENERAL GUIDANCE AS TO WHAT IS DESIRED AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES TO BE FOLLOWED.

6. QUESTIONS OF COORDINATION WILL BE SIMPLIFIED IF THE FOREGOING PROCEDURE IS FOLLOWED. FURTHER, AS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 15 AND 16 OF DOCUMENT MEP
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